

Message Text

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ACTION INR-07

INFO OCT-01 ARA-06 ISO-00 PM-04 CIAE-00 NSAE-00 EB-07 /025 W
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R 171514Z SEP 76
FM AMEMBASSY NASSAU
TO SECSTATE WASHDC 8648
SECDEF WASH DC

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E.O. 11652: N/A

TAGS: PINR EGEN MILI BF US

SUBJ: REQUEST FOR DIA HIGH ALTITUDE PHOTOGRAPHS BY MCDERMOTT
ASSOCIATES LTD.

1. EMBASSY HAS RECEIVED COPY OF LETTER, DATED SEPT. 10,
1976, TO ORIS RUSSELL, PERMSEC, MINEXTAFF, FROM M. OAKLEY
BIDWELL, MANAGING DIRECTOR, MCDERMOTT ASSOCIATES LTD
WHICH FOLLOWS:

QUOTE: DEAR MR. RUSSELL

THIS WILL CONFIRM OUR PHONE CONVERSATION THIS MORNING.

OUR CLIENTS, MARCONA OCEAN INDUSTRIES LTD. OF FT. LAUDERDALE,
FLA. HOLD A LEASE FROM THE BAHAMAS GOVERNMENT FOR THE EXCLUSIVE
MINING OF ARAGONITE IN FOUR SPECIFIC PARCELS OF OCEAN BOTTOM
IN BAHAMIAN TERRITORIAL WATERS. ONE OF THESE, IDENTIFIED AS
"PARCEL D" IN THE ORIGINAL CROWN LEASE APPLICABLE TO THE MINING
CONCESSION, COVERS THE WATERS IMMEDIATELY TO THE WEST OF
ANDROS ISLAND.

MARCONA HAS LEARNED THAT THE U.S. DEPARTMENT OF DEFENSE
INTELLIGENCE AGENCY HAS ON FILE HIGH ALTITUDE AERIAL PHOTOGRAPHS
OF THIS SECTION OF BAHAMIAN WATERS. THESE WOULD BE OF GREAT
VALUE TO MARCONA IN PLANNING FUTURE EXPANSION OF THE ARAGONITE
MINING OPERATION BEYOND THE PARCEL SOUTH OF BIMINI PRESENTLY
BEING WORKED. THE EXTENT OF ARAGONITE DEPOSITS WITHIN PARCEL D
SHOWS CLEARLY IN THE PHOTOGRAPHS.

THE U.S. DEPARTMENT OF DEFENSE INTELLIGENCE AGENCY HAS INFORMED
MARCONA THAT IT WILL BE WILLING TO RELEASE PRINTS OF THESE
SPECIFIC PHOTOGRAPHS TO MARCONA IF THE GOVERNMENT OF THE
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COMMONWELATH OF THE BAHAMAS PROVIDES US WITH A LETTER

INDICATING THAT THE BAHAMIAN GOVERNMENT CONCURS IN THE RELEASE OF THESE PHOTOGRAPHS TO MARCONA OCEAN INDUSTRIES LTD. FOR THE PURPOSE OUTLINED ABOVE.

WE WOULD GREATLY APPRECIATE SUCH A LETTER, FOR MARCONA TO DELIVER TO THE U.S. DEPARTMENT OF DEFENSE INTELLIGENCE AGENCY.

YOURS SINCERELY, M. OAKLEY BIDWELL MANAGING DIRECTOR
UNQUOTE

2. EMBASSY DOUBTS THAT DIA WOULD MAKE SUCH STATEMENTS TO MARCONA AND INFORMAL CONTACT WITH DOD/ISA APPEARS TO CONFIRM THIS CONCLUSION. EMBASSY WOULD NEVERTHELESS BE GRATEFUL IF DEPARTMENT/DOD WOULD CONFIRM THAT NO SUCH COURSE OF ACTION WAS RECOMMENDED BY DIA TO MARCONA.
WEISS

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Message Attributes

Automatic Decaptioning: X
Capture Date: 01 JAN 1994
Channel Indicators: n/a
Current Classification: UNCLASSIFIED
Concepts: AERIAL PHOTOGRAPHY, MINING INDUSTRY
Control Number: n/a
Copy: SINGLE
Draft Date: 17 SEP 1976
Decaption Date: 01 JAN 1960
Decaption Note:
Disposition Action: RELEASED
Disposition Approved on Date:
Disposition Authority: coburnhl
Disposition Case Number: n/a
Disposition Comment: 25 YEAR REVIEW
Disposition Date: 28 MAY 2004
Disposition Event:
Disposition History: n/a
Disposition Reason:
Disposition Remarks:
Document Number: 1976NASSAU01481
Document Source: CORE
Document Unique ID: 00
Drafter: n/a
Enclosure: n/a
Executive Order: N/A
Errors: N/A
Film Number: D760352-0074
From: NASSAU
Handling Restrictions: n/a
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ISecure: 1
Legacy Key: link1976/newtext/t19760949/aaaabppe.tel
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Previous Classification: LIMITED OFFICIAL USE
Previous Handling Restrictions: n/a
Reference: n/a
Review Action: RELEASED, APPROVED
Review Authority: coburnhl
Review Comment: n/a
Review Content Flags:
Review Date: 13 JUL 2004
Review Event:
Review Exemptions: n/a
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Review Markings:

Margaret P. Grafeld
Declassified/Released
US Department of State
EO Systematic Review
04 MAY 2006

Review Media Identifier:
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Review Release Date: n/a
Review Release Event: n/a
Review Transfer Date:
Review Withdrawn Fields: n/a
Secure: OPEN
Status: NATIVE
Subject: REQUEST FOR DIA HIGH ALTITUDE PHOTOGRAPHS BY MCDERMOTT ASSOCIATES LTD.
TAGS: PINR, EGEN, MILI, BF, US, DIA, MARCONA OCEAN IND
To: STATE DOD
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